

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIARural Production, 1945-46

This Bulletin repeats the principal statistics relating to cereals and livestock recently published in Bulletins 8 and 9, and gives data concerning other crops, exports, manures used, implements employment, etc.

Particulars for 1945-46 are compared with the previous year 1944-45, the pre-war year 1938-39 and also with 1930-31, the year with the greatest area under wheat.

There have been three distinct phases in rural activities during the last 20 years. During the few years prior to 1930, the acreage under wheat for grain had increased very rapidly and reached the maximum acreage in that year while the numbers of sheep and cattle had decreased. The second phase was from 1930 to 1943, when there were substantial increases in the flocks and herds and decreases in the wheat areas, particularly from 1940 to 1943 when there were shortages of superphosphate and manpower and also controlled planning. The third phase has been since 1943, with the reversed trend of increased wheat acreages and decreased numbers of sheep and cattle - drought losses being very severe.

Comparing the season 1945-46 with 1930-31, it is noted that there have been decreased acreages for wheat, hay, orchards and tobacco but increases for barley, oats, rye, green fodder, peas, lucerne and clover seed, vines, potatoes and other vegetables, chicory and canary seed. There have also been new crops such as flax, licorice, herbs, vegetable seeds, mustard seed, opium poppies, pyrethrum and guayale rubber. Blue boiler peas were tried during the war but growing has ceased again. During the same period there were increases of sheep, cattle and pigs but a decrease in horses.

The decrease in hay and wheat areas would be associated with the decrease in horse numbers as would also the increase in tractor numbers. There were increased areas of pastures top-dressed, and also of crops grown for green fodder, which would be associated with the increased numbers of sheep and cattle.

Detailed particulars are set forth in the following tables and notes. For some items, particulars were not collected in earlier years and "N.A." has been inserted. Some of the 1945-46 details are provisional.

I AREAS UNDER CROP

Particulars	1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Wheat for Grain	4,180,513	3,080,401	1,623,145	2,165,004
Barley " "	251,957	457,039	359,813	441,830
Oats " "	218,416	266,842	334,028	369,733
Rye " "	1,455	5,273	22,795	33,311
Peas - Field	8,764	16,570	15,986	14,033
Lucerne, Clover, etc. Seed	1,142	2,342	10,067	11,933
Flax	-	4	10,548	6,292
Hay	612,935	519,309	428,173	484,060
Green Fodder	60,029	276,021	264,606	191,501
Vines Wine	33,053	36,457	35,613	40,112
Drying, Table	19,181	21,563	21,312	17,328
Orchards	29,630	28,943	26,484	27,223
Vegetables - Potatoes	4,998	4,290	12,562	8,853
Other Domestic	3,700	5,446	11,296	9,319
Nurseries	148	177	94	137
Chicory	17	31	129	115
Tobacco	83	39	-	-
Canary Seed	51	3,076	496	320
Mustard Seed	-	-	1,733	2,575
Other (a)	2	267	494	449
Total Crops	5,426,074	4,724,090	3,179,374	3,824,128

(a) Includes Vegetable Seeds, Herbs, Licorice, Opium poppies, Pyrethrum Guayale Rubber and Maize.

Vegetables for 1945-46 (1944-45) include Green Peas 3,033 (3,886) Turnips and Swedes 631 (828), Carrots 439 (858), onions 511 (635) Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 731 (799), Tomatoes 777 (728), Cabbages 619 (755) Cauliflowers 468 (510), French Beans 434 (341), Beetroot 257 (304), Lettuce 330 (312) Celery 347 (287), Blue Boiler Peas 86 (174).acres.

II YIELDS OF CROPS

Particulars		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Wheat	Bush	34,871,526	31,674,418	9,244,211	21,033,841
Barley	"	3,960,929	7,541,090	3,184,831	7,566,146
Oats	"	2,080,311	2,401,128	1,316,283	3,178,450
Rye	"	7,669	18,469	37,925	140,116
Peas - Field	"	65,280	96,329	44,084	99,998
Hay	Tons	641,273	585,554	316,802	521,957
Potatoes	"	18,991	18,487	64,154	35,097
Onions	"	3,181	3,892	5,429	4,779
Tomatoes	Bush.	169,825	226,691	242,296	248,206
Green Peas	"	N.A.	97,918	165,638	133,921
Carrots	Tons	809	1,117	7,069	3,538
Wine	Galls	10,131,034	11,147,046	10,573,507	20,093,046
Currants	Cwts.	151,761	191,381	137,840	98,227
Sultanas	"	111,599	192,926	186,620	138,734
Raisins	"	44,903	40,212	60,220	54,591
Apples	Bush	486,773	808,020	617,361	1,001,237
Apricots	"	283,570	343,569	249,065	414,321
Peaches	"	114,166	149,602	132,184	148,057
Pears	"	127,883	195,995	213,021	193,357
Plums, Prunes	"	134,924	134,030	118,217	139,802
Oranges	"	409,816	815,460	841,365	860,885
Lemons	"	28,185	55,862	32,048	28,523
Almonds	Cwts.	6,955	9,994	9,671	10,854

YIELDS PER ACRE

Wheat	Bush.	8.34	10.28	5.70	9.72
Barley	"	15.72	16.50	8.85	17.12
Oats	"	9.52	9.00	3.94	8.60
Hay	Tons	1.05	1.13	0.74	1.08
April-Nov. Rain	In.	11.31	10.00	8.84	10.74

Other Vegetable Yields for 1945-46 (1944-45) included - Parsnips 797 (820) tons Swedes and Turnips 2,709 (3,659) tons; Beet-root 1,990 (2,843) tons; Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 4,927 (3,992) tons; French Beans 60,477 (64,375) bushels; Broad Beans 5,562 (6,594) bushels. Cauliflowers 135,392 (165,638) dozen; Cabbages 262,364 (347,933) dozen; Lettuce 164,432 (183,268) cases; Celery 181,651 (164,020) crates; Silver Beet 25,612 (27,692) dozen bunches;

Other Fruit yields for 1945-46 (1944-45) included cherries 35,511 (59,676), Figs 24,032 (19,596), Nectarines 31,215 (24,448) Grape Fruit 16,778 (13,582), Quinces 28,769 (28,956), Loquats 1,228 (2,642) bushels, Walnuts 1,161 (462) cwt.

Berry Fruits were:- Raspberries 1,143 (1,155), Gooseberries 1,251 (1,511) Strawberries 1,832 (1,542) Black currants 592 (43), Red currants 89 (28), Loganberries 246, (194), Blackberries 184 (241) cwts.

Oranges were specified as Naval 609,285 (630,856), Valencia 182,318 (149,662), Seville and Poorman 6,896 (6,813), Mandarins 24,643 (17,113), Other seeded types 37,743 (36,921) bushels.

Pears were canning 127,948 (114,476), Other 65,409 (98,545) bushels.

Peaches were canning 43,749 (43,506) Other 104,308 (88,678) bushels.

Plums were 68,457 (58,906) and prunes 71,345 (59,313) bushels.

The wine production of 20,093,046 (10,573,057) gallons, exceeded the 1926-27 record by nearly 4,000,000 gallons. Considerable quantities of drying grapes were damaged by the summer rains and were sent to the distilleries and wineries, resulting in the record production of wine and decreased quantities of dried vine fruits. The quantity of distillation wine was 11,929,342 (5,543,585) gallons.

RECORD YIELDS. Apart from wine, and also rye, there were no other record yields of crops of importance during the 1945-46 season. Records in past years have been as follows:- Wheat 1931-32 48,093,102 bushels, Barley 1941-42 11,536,339 bushels, Oats 1939-40 4,062,541 bushels, Wine 1926-27 16,159,595 gallons, Currants 1939-40 208,930 cwt; Sultanas 1937-38 281,657 cwt, Raisins 1940-41 89,557 cwt, Apples 1940-41 1,750,000 bushels, Oranges 1940-41 924,122 bushels, Pears 1939-40 279,311 bushels, Almonds 1941-42 11,100 cwts, Apricots 1943-44 551,734 bushels.

### III OVERSEA EXPORTS (Years ended June)

		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Barley	Bush	2,867,932	2,248,212	199,460	700,910
Wheat	Bush	20,055,380	18,486,303	16,030,672	2,747,022
Flour	tons	66,293	86,678	134,893	104,892
Butter	lb.	2,456,894	7,385,564	1,685,768	2,407,272
Cheese	lb.	-	12,907,683	5,056,450	5,778,339
Pork, bacon	lb.	135,653	466,462	16,561,363	4,606,524
Mutton	carc.	-	3,299	227,904	16,063
Lamb	carc.	20,821	667,248	736,047	104,861
Wool (as greasy)	lb.	56,494,579	87,272,802	56,985,080	96,925,409
Currants, raisins	lb.	33,972,358	42,692,777	60,425,915	18,735,731
Wine	gall.	1,837,986	3,440,509	929,071	1,355,252
Tree fruits -					
fresh, dried, etc.	£	62,788	275,074	7,994	100,779
Eggs.	£	46,017	98,911	72,651	443,022

### IV MANURE USED

Particulars		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Crops manured	Acres	4,920,658	4,281,419	2,289,652	3,035,536
Manure used	Tons	182,906	179,118	75,691	109,548
Cropped area manured	%	90.7	90.6	72.0	79.4
Manure per acre	Lbs.	83.3	93.7	74.1	80.8
Pastures manured	Acres	214,539	1,095,120	724,245	853,699
Manure used	Tons	11,102	56,325	27,038	37,599
Manure per acre.	Lbs.	115.9	115.2	83.6	98.7

The quantity of manure is that used for producing the crops grown in the seasons stated.

The proportionally lesser acreage under wheat had had a tendency to increase the figures for average lbs. used per acre on crops, 83.3 in 1930-31 to 93.7 in 1938-39, but the shortage in available supplies had caused a decrease to 71.9 lbs. in 1943-44 but it has increased again to 80.8 lbs. for 1945-46. The percentage of cropped land manured also fell from 90.6% in 1938-39 to 69.8% in 1943-44 and increased to 79.4% for 1945-46. The shortage had also been the cause of lesser acreages top-dressed with smaller dressings per acre from 1938-39 to 1943-44, but with increases last two years. Associated with the subject of top-dressed pastures, it is noted that 35,683 acres of lucerne and 367,738 acres of clover and grasses other than native grasses were grazed during the year, apart from lucerne, clover, etc. harvested for seed or hay.

Particulars re fertilisers used for 1945-46 were

Crop	Area Manured	Super- phosphate	Other Fertilisers	Total per acre
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Lbs.
Wheat for Grain	1,968,001	60,790	133	69.3
Other Cereals, Hay	979,516	33,129	250	76.3
Vegetables	13,499	2,302	3,476	958.8
Fruits, Vines	38,038	2,111	5,646	456.8
Other Crops	36,482	1,607	104	105.0
Total Crops	3,035,536	99,939	9,609	80.8
Pastures	853,699	37,248	351	98.7
Grand Total	3,889,235	137,187	9,960	84.7

#### V ENSILAGE

		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Pits and stacks	No.	30	131	N.A.	N.A.
Quantity made	Tons	3,656	6,086	2,749	4,664
Ensilage Stocks March	"	N.A.	N.A.	2,151	3,186

#### VI LIVESTOCK, ETC.

Sheep	No.	5,980,959	9,936,586	8,473,939	6,786,538
Cattle - Dairying	"	109,672	165,110	186,690	175,696
Other	"	109,313	153,787	204,633	198,400
Horses	"	183,529	195,834	133,003	115,949
Pigs	"	82,991	71,292	160,875	119,986
Ewes Mated	"	2,515,293	4,202,848	4,082,631	3,036,031
Lambs marked	"	1,427,003	3,077,634	2,579,176	1,469,831
Wool Production	Lbs.	67,300,881	102,388,121	106,708,055	73,500,000
Butter made	"	10,789,706	20,716,584	17,247,094	18,700,000
Cheese made	"	3,536,943	18,457,598	18,465,687	22,500,000
Milk production	Gall.	39,000,000	72,500,000	72,150,000	80,000,000
Bacon and Ham	Lbs	5,232,878	5,987,363	10,077,881	11,600,000
Slaughterings		1930	1938	1944	1945
Sheep, Lambs	No.	1,242,835	1,588,507	3,065,290	2,016,953
Cattle, Calves	"	117,806	167,451	174,850	147,541
Pigs	"	94,950	150,369	237,765	206,298

Particulars of sheep and lambs - and other livestock - are as at 31st March in the last 4 years, instead of 31st December as previously and, in making comparisons, allowances must be made for slaughterings and mortality from January to March. The flocks at December 1943 probably were in the vicinity of 11,250,000, December 1944 9,700,000 and 1945 - 7,200,000. The decreases in all kinds of stock during 1944-45 and 1945-46 were due to the severe drought. The total reported losses for the two years were - sheep 2,104,649 apart from unmarked lambs, cattle 49,218, horses 27,731 and pigs 17,432. The drought caused increased slaughterings of sheep in 1944 and decreases in 1945.

#### VII PERSONS ENGAGED PERMANENTLY

Particulars		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Males	No.	38,447	41,421	33,609	35,746
Females	No.	2,335	2,942	6,212	5,504
Persons	No.	40,782	44,363	39,821	41,250

Particulars have been collected under the following headings.

		Occupiers Lessees, etc.		Unpaid Relatives		Paid Employees	
		1945	1946	1945	1946	1945	1946
Males	No.	23,234	23,351	3,269	3,323	7,106	9,072
Females	"	3,545	3,283	1,662	1,291	1,005	930

In 1940-41, particulars were collected showing how principally engaged:-

		Cultivating	Dairying	Pastoral	Total
Males	No.	26,487	4,373	7,797	38,657
Females	"	414	2,334	79	2,827

### VIII MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS

		1930-31	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46
Tractors	No.	3,991	5,969	8,044	9,211
Engines (stationary)	"	13,992	16,841	19,747	19,894
Ploughs	"	29,704	30,609	34,354	33,834
Cultivators, etc.	"	19,276	18,923	24,174	26,652
Harrows (Leaves)	"	100,070	105,977	100,719	100,856
Grain Drills	"	18,528	19,203	18,449	18,167
Binders	"	11,018	10,632	9,708	9,618
Headers, Strippers, etc.	"	N.A.	N.A.	15,609	15,189
Milking Machines	"	367	684	2,206	2,349
Shearing Machines	"	N.A.	N.A.	3,770	3,978

Details for 1945-46 were as follows:-

Tractors. Crawler or track type 2,763, Rubber tyred 4,046, Steel tyred 2,402.

Ploughs. Single Furrow 15,923, Double furrow 17,911.

Cultivators. Tandem disc. 5,753, Other disc 2,686, Spring tooth 6,840, Rigid Tine 5,602, Rotary hoes 701, Scarifiers 2,478 Other cultivators 2,664.

Grain Drills. Combine type 12,296. Other types 5,871.

Milking Machines. Unit sizes 1 and unspecified - 129; 2 - 1,143; 3 - 783 4 - 244, 5 - 24, 6 - 19, 8 and over - 7; Total 2,349

Shearing Machines as per number of stands. 1 and unspecified - 1,028, 2 - 2139; 3 - 420; 4 - 181; 5 - 55; 6 - 59, All other - 96, Total 3,978.

Fertiliser distributors and broadcasters - 2,858.

Windmills 24,089, chaff cutters 12,093, Mowers 4,861, Hay Rakes 7,032, Hay Presses and Balers 601, spraying Plants 1,164, Fruit graders 294. Potato Diggers 338.

Motor trucks, utilities or lorries 11,964.

Particulars have not been collected in recent years, but in 1940-41 there were reported to have been 19,957 separators, 6,015 winnowers, 6,720 harvesters, 7,024 strippers and 5,604 reaper threshers.